



Drum sampling starts at Duane Marine

PERTH AMBOY — Sampling work of drums at the abandoned Duane Marine Salvage Corp. site is underway, with the physical removal of the materials to follow, according to a spokesman for the federal Environmental Protection Agency.

"The sampling of the drum is to determine the contents so they can find out the types of wastes on the site for eventual disposal," said EPA spokesman Richard Cahill.

The sampling work, which began this week, is being done by the IT Corp., of Edison, said Cahill.

Cahill said the EPA is monitoring all the work at the site off Washington Street. No federal money is being expended on the project, he added.

The 30 companies involved formulated the cleanup program, which was approved by the EPA after extensive review. Those firms are also paying for the work.

The work is being paid for by companies that had materials manifested to the site.

Duane Marine operated the toxic waste storage and treatment facility from 1975 to 1980. The plant was destroyed in a huge fire in July of 1980.

Since then, city officials have been attempting to have the state and federal environmental agencies clean up the site. There are believed to be between 3,500 to 4,000 55-gallon drums on the site in various degrees of deterioration.



TNT staff photos
by George Molnar

Testing begins

A portion of the former Duane Marine site in Perth Amboy, above, is littered with drums containing material now being tested for the presence of hazardous chemicals. At left, a worker for the IT Corp., of Edison, the firm conducting the sampling and testing, checks for the presence of organics near several drums.